

Essex Harbor Management Commission
29 West Avenue
Essex, CT 06426

Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 21, 2013

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Attendance

Members Present

- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Wally Schieferdecker, Vice Chairman
- John Senning
- Walter Wiegert, Treasurer
- Joe Zaraschi

Others Present

- Buddy Hitchcock, Deputy Harbor Master
- Cy Libby, Brewer's Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk
- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

3. Approval of 10/17/13 Meeting Minutes

The October 17, 2013 meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed.

Motion: Jeff Going made a motion to approve the October 17, 2013 meeting minutes as amended and as noted below; Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion; 4-0-0 motion approved unanimously.

Amendments are as follows:

- Renumber to reflect the proper sequence from 1, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11;
- Under Minutes, add the word "to" before approve;
- Under Harbor Master Report, add:
 - "Three applications have been received for the Mooring Permit Wait List:
 - Timothy Pickering, 9/23;
 - Stewart Galeucia, 9/28;
 - Tom Riggio, 10/13."
- Under Adjournment, add: "Joe Zaraschi seconded; 3-0-0 motion approved unanimously."

4. Public Comment

Cy Libby presented some information from Gilman Corporation, a company in Gilman, CT that makes buoys for the Coast Guard. They make floats that look indestructible. We need two replace at least two marks in the Spring, and this company might be a good resource. Final needs will be determined and further research and pricing will be done.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer Walter Wiegert reviewed the November Treasurer's Report with the Commission.

Motion: Wally Schieferdecker moved to approve the October Treasurer's Report; Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion ; 3-0-1 motion approved, Walter Wiegert abstained.

Walter Wiegert has received 3 invoices:

- Lighthouse Printing - \$141.00 for #9 return envelopes;
- Ruth Hockert, Clerk - \$293.88 for November services;
- Betsy McLaughlin, New Clerk - \$448.32 for October & November services.

Motion: Walter Weigert moved to approve the three invoices; Wally Schieferdecker seconded the motion; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Walter also noted that he received notification from the Town Treasurer that a semi- annual audit was completed with no comment.

6. Harbor Master Report

- Harbor Master Paul Riggio provided the Commission with an update on the recent activities of Michael Hargrove and his boat, Starmeade. Hargrove has been given several tickets for a multitude of harbor violations, including having an unregistered boat and being anchored in the middle of the channel, among others. Paul is providing him with a copy of the Harbor Management Plan highlighting all of the reasons that explain why he received the tickets.
- Paul also provided the Commission with an update on the 2014 Mooring Permit Renewals. Eighty-nine out of 120 renewals have been received to date, two were returned as undeliverable, and we received one non-renewal. We have also received five mooring permit wait list applications:
 - Ed Remillard, check dated 10/18/13*
 - Ann Soper, check dated 10/28/13
 - George Van Drasek, check dated 11/6/13
 - Victor Winogradow, check dated 11/7/13
 - Ronald Levine, check dated 11/7/13

***Note:** Ed Remillard's application was dated 10/9/13 but was considered incomplete because there was no check with the application.

- Paul also received an inquiry from Denise Clerkin as to why she is now #11 on the mooring permit wait list and not #7 where she was before. Paul will check into it and get back to her.

Note: The Commission decided to use the date of the checks as opposed to the date of the application for purposes of priority on the wait list.

7. Harbor Management Business

- Capital Projects: None
- Harbor Management Issues

1st Selectman Norm Needleman brought to the Commission's attention a concern expressed by Mr. Daniels of Heritage Cove. Mr. Daniels overlooks North Cove and is concerned with a lot of trash on the Meadows/North Cove, which he assumed was town property/public land. Wally Schieferdecker visited the area of concern and found a couple of old floating docks with plastic drums and a few pieces of styrofoam. However, a review of the map obtained from the Essex Land Trust shows that the area of concern is not public land and is all privately owned. Jeff Going updated 1st Selectman Norm Needleman of our findings and offered to help take care of the situation. 1st Selectman Needleman will inform Mr. Daniels of the Commission's findings, and no further action by the Commission on this matter is needed.

- Town Access Ways

Member Joe Zaraschi reported that there are still approximately 20 kayaks Bushnell Park. A notice will be put on the Town website reminding everyone that all vessels must be removed from Bushnell Access by November 30, 2013. There are also some abandoned vessels, some of which have been there for four or five years. Member John Senning suggested that we see what is still there after December 1 and he will assist the Commission with a procedure to legally remove any remaining vessels.

Member John Senning noted that Mack Lane was maintained nicely this summer and that 36 Mack Lane sold earlier this month. The new property owner observed a ladder attached to a bulkhead which they hadn't seen previously, and they are concerned about potential liability with exposure to public access. John told them he would talk to the Commission about it. Cy Libby said he hasn't pulled the ramp and float out of there yet, and that he will take the ladder out. Otherwise, the Mack Lane access way seems fine and there is nothing new to report.

Harbor Master Paul Riggio noted that there had been previous discussion about the possibility of improving public access when this property was sold by granting an easement for a driveway which could benefit all parties.

8. Correspondence

A notice was received from the Lower Connecticut River Valley Regional Agricultural Council stating that they are acting as an advocate for local agriculture.

9. New Business

Member Joe Zaraschi noted that there is a grant program called BIG (Boating Infrastructure Grant Program), which might help pay for the floats that are needed. He will look into this further.

10. Old Business

Chairman Jeff Going stated that he has been re-elected as was everyone else who was proposed. He doesn't know yet about the alternates.

He also stated that if no one objects, he is thinking of sending a letter to the DEP with some suggestions to help with the erosion problem.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m.; Wally Schieferdecker seconded the motion; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk